

DC GAZETTE

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ANTICIPATORY COLONIALISM

THE city council is slowly building the case for statehood -- with more than a little help from Charles Diggs, chairman of the House District Committee.

The defeat of the marijuana legislation was the most dramatic indication yet that the council is still very much a colonial legislature, elected for the purpose of subservience. It is true that the God lobby played an important part in killing the pot bill -- the word passed in and out of holy rooms was that the council is pro-gambling, pro-homosexual and pro-pot (a local update of the attack on George McGovern as the acid, amnesty and abortion candidate); and one reasonable interpretation of the council's reversal of its support of the pot legislation is that it was reacting to the power of political prayer. But these days in this city, there is no clear demarcation between the Lord and Charles Diggs and both can take their share of the credit for the retreat of the council.

Diggs moved quickly after the council, on first reading, approved a mild bill lessening the penalty for possession of small amounts of pot to traffic-ticket status. He caused a poll to be taken of House District Committee members to determine if they were ready to veto the council's action. News of the poll was leaked to the two dailies; House District Committee staffers followed up by personally lobbying members of the council to change their vote.

By the time the matter came up for second reading the council had caved. It voted 7 to 6 to table the bill after some lugubrious sermonizing by the Rev. Jerry Moore ("We stand on the threshold of a permissive society") and Bill Spaulding's warning that the issue was whether the city was going "to pot or not to pot."

Before the vote, Julius Hobson Sr. commented: "Mr. Diggs was not elected by the people of the District and no more represents us than Mr. McMillan," (the former chairman of the House Committee). But as Rev. Doug Moore pointed out in debate with Marion Barry, "Mr. Barry knows that if the mayor didn't veto it, Mr. Diggs would kill it. So you might as well cut your own throats tonight." And Sterling Tucker added: "There are only two ways this bill can be kept alive: By withdrawing it or tabling it. The ballgame is over after this vote."

Thus, only ten months into the charade, the myth of home rule is already cracking. Even in its humiliation, however, the city council preferred to maintain as much of the illusion as it could by backing down from a direct confrontation with Congress.

(please turn to page 4)

DON'T MISS OUR
XMAS CATALOG

Two months ago, the Gazette reported that Metro had ignored an estimate made by its own consulting engineers in the fall of 1974 that the system would cost dramatically more than Metro was letting on: perhaps in the neighborhood of \$5.5 billion. Now come reports from the GAO and a House committee suggesting that the costs may run as high as \$6.1 billion. ... Meanwhile, Arlington, which approved the concept of Metro in 1968 with the support of 79% of its voters, has killed a \$25 million bond issue for the subway.

Parting Words With Ray Kemp

IN keeping with the adage that those who don't know their history are condemned to repeat it, Anne Chase had the following talk with Father Raymond Kemp, School Board representative from Ward I. Father Kemp declined to run for reelection. The interview was conducted before the election:

GAZETTE: Why didn't you run this time?
KEMP: Various reasons. Fatigue, limited tenure--I believe everybody ought to be on the Board of Education, because it's the only way you can understand how the board works. The lack of local leadership was a factor too. Basically I'm a community organizer gone wrong. I violated Saul Alinsky's cardinal rule, 'Never get up front.' Now there's a question of whether I can go to the back of the bus again. Most people don't know how the city runs. They have a stereotypical view of the politicians dividing up the city and making a lot of money. But we actually don't have very many politicians in town, in the sense of a guy who will try to see five or six sides to an issue. Marion Barry is the only one I know of, or maybe Julius.

(please turn to page 2)

Subway to Nowhere

HAROLD GOLDSTEIN

PRESENT plans for the first phase of Metrorail call for a mid-February opening of five stations between Rhode Island Avenue NE and Farragut Square. The courts have ordered that a sixth station, Gallery Place, be kept closed until elevators for the handicapped are running. This ruling is being appealed by the transit authority. If the proposed fare structure, as developed by a subcommittee of the Metro board, is adopted it will cost 55¢ to board the subway during the peak period or 15¢ to transfer from bus. The off-peak fare will be 40¢.

Metro's present estimate is that Phase 1 will cost some \$28.4 million more than revenues during its first year. Previous experiences with Metro estimates suggest that this is a minimum fare.

Metro plans to capitalize Phase 1 by financing it as part of the overall building costs of the system. The rationale for this is that the early subway operation contains significant start-up, debugging, general learning and PR costs more related to system development than operation. If this rationale is accepted by the Urban Mass Transit Administration then (at the present level of funding) two-thirds of the deficit will be federally financed, leaving \$9.4 million to be paid by local governments.

It appears that the local jurisdictions will not be getting any appreciable transportation benefits from Phase 1. Optimistic Metro estimates are that farebox revenues will pay for less than 5% of the total operating costs. I suspect that farebox revenues will barely cover the costs of collecting them.

An examination of the stations served by Phase 1 indicates its relative uselessness. For example, bus riders on express buses from Prince Georges County will not leave the comfort of a seat for the harsh cold or overbearing heat at an added expense to save a few minutes in running time. Spot checks of the af-

(please turn to page 4)

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KEMP Cont'd

The whole thing is so unraveled; you can just go down and pick at one of the threads and it comes unraveled. The only people who know how to do that are organized; the Board of Trade, the Board of Realtors, and possibly the ANCs.

Look at 14th Street, look at U Street and 7th Street. I've been interested in creating development and getting local people to control it. I think it's a value to have blacks living within ten blocks of Massachusetts Avenue. I want to get involved in preserving the residential character of this neighborhood. Older blacks here are sitting ducks for reverse block busting.



The real fight in schools is at the local level. It's clear that if you want to spend the time you can guarantee a superior educational process. Oyster School is run by parents, principal and students. They tell the central administration who they'll accept as teachers and who they won't. If you have a delegate assembly approach, the way you do at Morgan School, you have some type of governance, but not necessarily a good school.

Also, I was spending too much time on board business and going nowhere. You could do 45 hours worth of work a week and a half an hour might be productive. I decided not to run before the board unloaded Sizemore. Things might be better now, but I have to get things out of my system.

GAZETTE: Do you want to talk about how the board got into this whole Sizemore thing?

KEMP: Barry and company did a complete 180 degree turn in two weeks time, in terms of the person they wanted to run the school system. Knowing they needed a manager, they turned around and hired a lady with rhetoric. The whole production was co-ordinated by Barbara Simmons. I feel very keenly damage was done which could have been avoided if the board had stuck to its original goals. Anybody who looked at Mrs. Sizemore's record couldn't say she met the need we had for an administrator.

Barry switched, took Coates, and there went the whole ball game. It never would have been this way if you'd looked at the record.

GAZETTE: It's interesting that the people who got you into this mess are now on the city council and keep trying to intervene in board business.

KEMP: I see the end of an elected Board of Education within three years time. This time the city council got burned. They said the board couldn't do anything for sixty days and then reneged. It's going to take the city council three years to come together with a bill that has congressional support to abolish the Board. If Hilda Mason goes back in, if Treanor and Virginia Morris stay on the board [Morris was defeated] it will be

too much of a pain in the ass for the council. For that fight, I want to be off the board, because of where politics is in this town. An appointed board won't give education a free voice.

GAZETTE: Have you seen anything concrete pointing in that direction?

KEMP: Ruby Martin, in Digg's office, has drafted a regents bill. It's designed to give a co-ordinated approach to education, especially since we're going with DC University. It's been around for a long time, and it's definitely something to watch. But if you look at the record, I know of boards that have screwed children and teachers far worse than we have.

Most folks in this town are in a plantation mentality. If we stop making so much noise, Daddy will take care of us. People are only now beginning to realize that their tax dollar comes back to them in the form of city services.

The board needs to spend six months reviewing budget priorities. We're spending a lot of money on people and not much money on things. We don't have the information at our fingertips to find out how much we're spending on the teaching of English, math, science, etc. We can't go to a local school and get a budgetary breakdown.

GAZETTE: How is it broken down?

KEMP: It's broken down by budget categories--what you spend on personnel and non-personnel. It has to be that way to be in compliance with the Wright decree, but it's not in a form that people can understand. We could probably get a handle on the elementary schools by spring.

GAZETTE: Why don't you have the information now?

KEMP: We had the information in 1973. Sizemore came in, and we went to community control of schools through the PACTS process. We had compliance with the Wright Decree due in December. We got the raw data, but a school-by-school financial statement never came. In 1974 we got a new business manager, Jim Williams. He talked about reorganizing the central business management, but that had nothing to do with the local schools.

After the superintendent's 120 day report, we went to decentralization -- six people in the regions with hiring power. They did not have a budget of the local school. They had a card file of the number of positions that were open at a school last year. Williams realized something was wrong and recentralized hiring on August 9th. So we ended up with 400 extra teachers and 180 custodial positions. At one point Sizemore actually denied that they had overhired.

The moral of this story is, if your business system is not together, you can't invite the citizens in to take it over.

GAZETTE: What did all the extra teachers do? Were there smaller classes?

KEMP: We had teachers sitting in regional offices, teachers unassigned at home, teachers walking the halls and in some instances, smaller classes. We're not going to be sure how many kids we're going to have for the next couple of years. We haven't got the basic demographic information.

GAZETTE: How has decentralization worked? Do the local schools have any power?

KEMP: Decentralization was supposed to take services closer to the local schools. We had four divisions: Secondary, Elementary, Model

Schools and Anacostia. They became six. Anacostia was Region I with Bill Rice. Dorothy Johnson took Region II, Napoleon Lewis Region III, Margaret Labau had Region IV, Gilbert Diggs had Region V, and Gary Freeman got Region VI. It was supposed to exist for a year, and at that time the regional PACTS would pick the superintendent of the regions. Well, there are no regional PACTS.

The regional offices are supposed to bring support personnel like pupil personnel, staff development people, etc., closer to the schools. Hilda Mason had about 100 people working on a citizens' plan for decentralization. Each high school and its feeders would be a region, and there would be a local board and a citywide board that would fulfill the functions of a state board. Scott and Sizemore said we couldn't pay for it, so we decided to do half of it, and have two high schools and their feeders. From the professional educators' view, the purpose of decentralization was to take the central administration off the hook re the local school. Whatever problems there were would be resolved by the PACTS process. You've got six people who are good goats for whatever goes wrong, and no more local control than you had to begin with.

I think the regional superintendents could just go, and you'd save \$2 million. If the principal had a budget, she or he could hire and fire, and you could keep the support personnel around.

GAZETTE: Where do you think we ought to be going?

KEMP: We ought to be putting money into parent aides. Ted Meyers, for all his posturing, came up with a good idea. He said we ought to create a cradle-to-grave educational process, and that is actually where we can go because we're going downward in population. We need to train people so they can be employed.

We need a vastly improved alternative program for high school or post-high school students. Right now students have practically no options about secondary education. You have to go through a 2500-population high school run the way high schools were run 50 years ago. We've got to have human communities that people feel they can control. We have 150 kids in the School Without Walls. People are knocking down the doors to get in. The only way to do it is in smaller groupings where people feel at home.

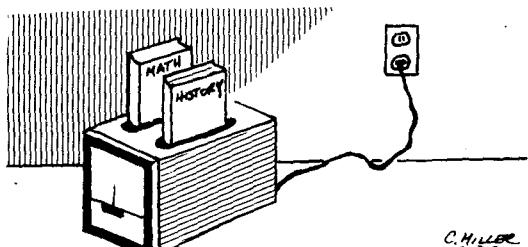
GAZETTE: What about the junior high schools?

KEMP: Well, that's one contribution Sizemore brought to town -- K through 8. The superintendent needs to make recommendations on closing the junior highs and establishing K-through 8 local schools.

GAZETTE: What are you going to do about hiring a new superintendent?

KEMP: Probably the board will look at Reed for three months, and if they like what they see, they'll sign him to a three year contract.

GAZETTE: What do you say to all the charges of racism that were thrown around during Sizemore's firing?



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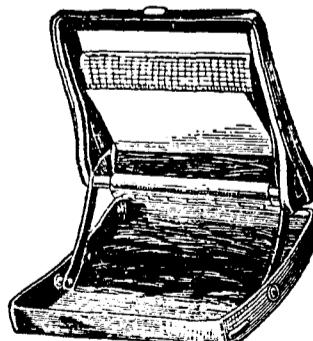
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KEMP: It's not true, but actually I think kids should encounter a little bit more redneck racism while they're growing up. If you've got visions of being something in this world, you can't create a black world where you're going to operate. When do you expose kids to the idea that there are people out there who will be hostile to them? While education ought to respect cultural differences, it ought to introduce you to other cultures at the same time. In this city you have the situation of the upper classes teaching the lower classes. Teachers have this attitude of "let me separate myself as much as possible from poor people." And we're not doing anything about this problem.

GAZETTE: I've seen a built-in expectation of failure on the part of a lot of black teachers in the system.

KEMP: Education is a series of ever growing hurdles. You've got to be able to successfully negotiate these hurdles. Nobody's putting any challenges in front of the students. Also, we have a lot of people in teaching positions who don't know how to think.

The only way you can create demands on students is to have the student interface with an adult who is making an academic demand on that student. I'm not sure this will happen with open space.

The teachers themselves are seemingly much more interested in getting their economic position together. They feel like, "I'm not going to fall back to where I was before I got my college degree." Also the people with the power have been able to buy off the parents with jobs.

GAZETTE: What's going to happen vis-a-vis the teachers' union?

KEMP: If we have a decent superintendent who knows what she's doing all the components of the educational process could work together. You could bring in the union executive committee to deliberations and tell them what's going on -- you can get cooperation. You're in a declining population situation. Unions have more to lose than the school board does. The unions also could have been much more militant than they have been.

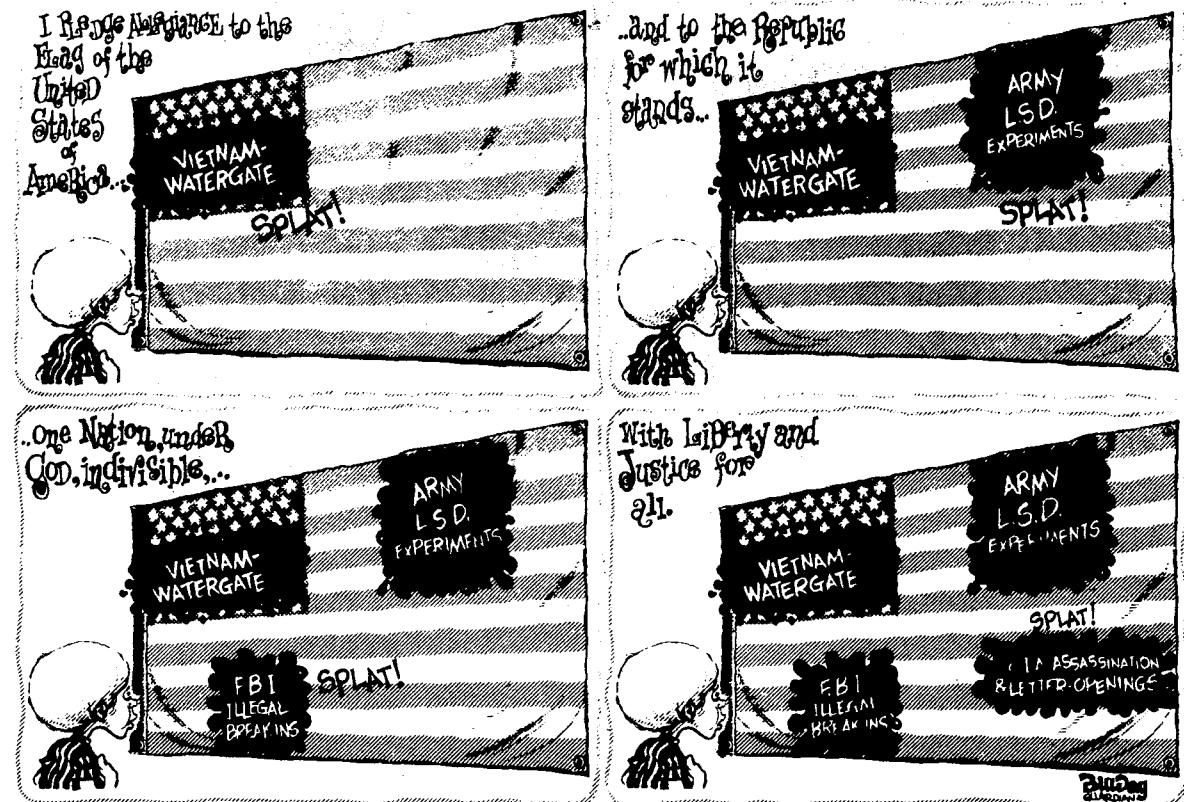
GAZETTE: What do you tell people when they say we're four years further along, and the schools are still bad?

KEMP: It is a controllable process. If you can good people on the board, you can make them deal with the problems. They can make it happen. It's not a situation where you have to organize for five years to accomplish anything.

COUNCIL CONT'D

The council and the mayor, it would appear, are cooperating with Chairman Diggs in the development of a new approach to government that might be called anticipatory colonialism. Congress need not exercise the power it has in a formal fashion because the council will give up before it becomes necessary.

The pot bill wasn't the first time. When the city approved the professionals' tax, the District Committee veered towards vetoing it, at which point city officials said that they suddenly realized they had made a mistake and would set matters straight. Congress didn't veto the tax and the city council turned to amending it



THE six councilmembers who voted not to table the marijuana bill despite the bullying of the House District Committee were Marion Barry, David Clarke, Arrington Dixon, Julius Hobson, Polly Shackleton and John Wilson.

Sterling Tucker and James Coates changed from their initial support of the legislation to support the motion to table. William Spaulding did not vote on the first reading, but voted to table. Councilmembers Willie Hardy, Doug Moore, Jerry Moore, and Nadine Winter opposed the bill from the beginning.

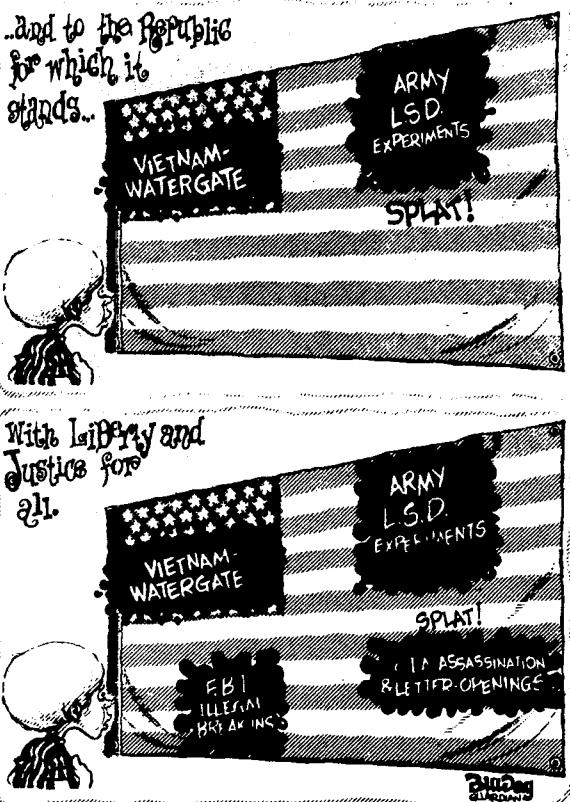
more to the liking of the House District Committee. The style is familiar to those acquainted with the operations of the Mafia. It is based on the principle of "You are free to do what you want but if you don't do what we want there will be some very unpleasant consequences." It seems to work quite effectively.

We can look forward to further efforts by the council and the mayor to conceal their fundamental impotency. They will talk like the people who run the city, but when House District Committee staffers sit around conspicuously at council legislative mark-up sessions, when council members receive those calls from the Hill and when they read in the paper about little polls being conducted within the District Committee, they will get the word. Their real constituency is calling, the ninth ward, Congress. Democracy Take One. Cut. It's back to real life.

METRO CONT'D

fected bus routes indicate that few patrons go as far as Farragut Square. For any other trip, the passengers are as well off on the bus.

For local people, during the rush period, there probably will be a tendency to stick with the cheaper bus except in cases where the origin and destination of the trip both correspond to convenient stations - highly unlikely for Phase 1.



The situation is exacerbated by the early closing of the system. While it makes no sense to keep the line open during the evening hours, it is as absurd to provide daytime service at the staggering cost of \$15 per passenger.

Metro and DC officials have privately admitted to me that they agree that Phase 1 provides no service function. They justify it based on public relations and public image, necessary debugging and the potential of capitalizing costs.

At this writing it is by no means certain that the Department of Transportation will allow Phase 1 to be capitalized. If it does, can we then shrug off the millions just because the Feds are footing the bill? This very attitude is one of the reasons for Metro's history of cost overruns and its continuing attempts at deception. It is not responsible management.

And what of the \$9.4 million local share? How is that explained to taxpayers? How can we explain that some cities provide personalized door-to-door transportation at a fraction of the cost of our go-no-place subway that will require a \$15 subsidy for every rider?

Further, if it is logical to capitalize this phase, then it would also be logical to delay its opening for a year and then capitalize a longer and more productive initial phase.

The debugging argument is absurd. One year is not needed to debug the system; two months should be sufficient. When the opening date for Phase 2 is established, Phase 1 could be run for two months to get the bugs out.

This leaves the final big reason: PR, public confidence and all that. Translated this means saving face. Metro officials fear that the public is starting to disbelieve everything they say. Phase 1 will prove we have an operable system. The logic here is incredible: Metro will restore confidence caused by deception and incompetence with yet another deception! Public confidence is at a low point but this is certainly not the way to restore it.

Responsible management can in no way justify the operation of Phase 1 by itself. Until recently, I was one of the few people to question the need for this phase. My memorandums on this issue to the Director of the DC Department of Transportation have been virtually ignored. Now, however, several Virginia voices have joined the battle. Irv McNair of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission has stated that he feels that neither of the first

Notes From the Real World

THE London Sunday Times reports that the U.S. Navy has secretly programmed criminals to become assassins at naval hospitals in Naples and San Diego. The Navy denies the report. Paul Krasner, editor of "The Realist" magazine, recently wrote that a naval intelligence officer infiltrated the Manson family in the late 1960's. There have also been reports of a link between Oswald and navy intelligence.

A NEW study by the Federal Energy Administration has found that Oregon's bottle bill not only saves energy, but increases employment as well.

FEA Assistant Administrator Roger Sant told the Western Governors' Conference that the study has disproved allegations commonly voiced by the bottling industry that requiring deposits on bottles would increase unemployment.

Under Oregon's law, all pull-top containers are outlawed; and all bottles must be redeemed by beverage makers for from 3 to 5 cents.

Sant says the study "indicates that not only do you have an energy savings, but you increase employment."

THE latest ballot tally shows that the United Farm Workers Union holds a substantial lead over the Teamsters Union in secret-ballot union elections for the right to represent California's farm workers.

The California Agricultural Labor Relations Board says its latest count shows the Farmworkers with 15,792 votes or 56 per cent of the ballots; while the Teamsters trail with 8987 votes, or 37 per cent of the vote.

In terms of election races on individual farms, the UFW has won 1316 elections compared to a mere 90 won by the Teamsters. These elections do not insure that contracts will be signed with the farmworkers so the UFW is urging that the grape-lettuce boycott continue.

SPORTS Illustrated reports that ABC has been selling the time slot during which the national anthem is played on the Monday night football game for \$50,000 for each 30 seconds. One recent Monday, during the playing of the anthem, a promotional spot was featured along with two commercials: the spot which pre-empted the Star Spangled Banner was a plug for the National Football League's contest for the best essay on the subject of the NFL's role in American history.

THE Washington Star reports that 11 million persons who live in the United States may soon be required by the federal government to carry special government-issued identification cards. The first two groups expected to be required to carry the ID's at all times are 5 million aliens living in the US and 6 million heads of households eligible to receive food stamps.

THE same firm which syndicates Ronald Reagan's nation-wide radio shows reports it is negotiating for a similar show hosted by former President Nixon.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR reports that toxic radioactive wastes from nuclear power plants are piling up so fast that the US may be forced to close down four of its 53 nuclear plants within the next year.

TOPICS

NR 5

DECEMBER 1975



"NEW YORK WILL HAVE TO END IT'S PROFLIGATE WAYS!"

CITY LINES

THE Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 radically altered national housing policy by effectively curtailing traditional public housing programs, as well as the various subsidized mortgage insurance programs. In their place Congress set up a plan for public housing in private accommodations or leased housing. Under the new program, designated Section Eight, the Department of Housing and Urban Development contracts directly with the owner of existing, new or rehabilitated units for the payment of the difference between the fair market rent for the dwelling and the tenant's contribution. Although the program sounds good, housing officials and citizen groups throughout the country are finding that it is one more ineffective national housing policy. According to a DC ex-housing official, this program costs two and a half times as much per family as any previous program. Furthermore there is little money in the program. For example DC can get only 750 units annually out of the program, about half as many units as in previous years. The program is also weighted towards the suburbs. Under the funding formula, central cities (except for Chicago and New York) are getting less than their previous share of national housing money. Furthermore, income levels have been raised, which means there is proportionately less money for lower income residents. Says James Banks, formerly housing chief in DC, "The federal government is really saying we want out of the housing game." The act, so far, has only provided subsidies for 200 units nationwide.

THE October 22nd Harper's Weekly contained an interesting article describing a program in Minneapolis run by the Minnesota Restitution Center on the seventh floor of the local YMCA. Involved are fifteen men, all of whom are felons facing prison terms of up to ten years,

but instead of serving time in penitentiaries, they hold jobs, support themselves and their families, and pay back those who have been hurt by their criminal actions. The amounts that they've paid have ranged from \$15 for a broken window to nearly \$3,000 for damage to stolen property. Harper's Weekly says: "The restitution philosophy -- which is not incorporated into the handful of other work-release programs in the nation's prisons -- 'forces accountability and responsibility,' according to Robert Mollet director of the Minnesota Center. 'The guy has to deal specifically with the human being involved in his crime. At least once a month he has to confront the reality that he has ripped somebody off.'" "Mollet believes that the center's record is impressive (its recidivism rate is 30%, compared with the national rate of 70%) and that similar restitution centers could work effectively anywhere in the country. His optimism is tempered though, with caution. 'Finding jobs has not been a problem here, but holding them has.'"

THE city of Schenectady is experimenting with free bus transportation for 4,000 General Electric employees from work to downtown during lunch time.

A NUMBER of communities, including Minneapolis, having established special low fare downtown zones. Bus passengers can ride around downtown Minneapolis regardless of destination for a dime.

SEVERAL communities are beginning to use electric mini-buses for short range transit. The dial-a-bus system in Rochester, NY, for example, uses an electric bus to serve a twelve mile area. Public reaction to the noiseless and pollutionless buses has been favorable. The electric power vehicles accelerate and decelerate fast which makes them effective in stop and go traffic.

ALTHOUGH NO-GROWTH ADVOCATES have been gaining ground in recent years there is still a tremendous amount of

high-rise office space being constructed in downtown centers. A report from the Downtown Idea Exchange says that while there are 557 million square feet of high-rise office buildings in downtown right now, another 59 million are under construction and another 63 million are planned. Meanwhile only 26 million square feet are under construction in outlying and suburban areas and only 44 million in planning stage in these areas.

SENATOR WILLIAM PROXMIRE reports that the Department of Housing and Urban Development is producing fewer and fewer housing units at the same time that its budget and staff is increasing. Sen. Proxmire has suggested that cutting the HUD budget might result in more federally assisted housing.

WHILE most city politicians, and national ones too, fail to recognize the importance of decentralization, at least Walter Wriston, chairman of City Corp, seems to understand its value. In talking to his staff recently he said, "The history of the world and the history of Citibank demonstrate conclusively that when decision-making is centralized, trouble eventually follows. This is true because a centralized system can only capture and make use of a limited amount of knowledge, while a decentralized system comes closer to being able to use the aggregate of information and creativity which cannot exist at a central point. The success of our organization has been built by very able people operating with decentralized authority and centralized financial control." Given the profits of Citibank and the deficits of most city governments, it might be worth paying some attention to what Wriston said.

THE Police Foundation has given a new push to the unconstitutional "stop and frisk" technique. The Foundation has released a study claiming to show that certain types of crimes increased in those parts of the city where police were forbidden to stop citizens on the street, question them and frisk them for weapons. The study also claimed that most citizens favored the practice. Patrick Murphy, president of the foundation, said the study should encourage other cities to experiment with "stop and frisk." There is one small impediment: some Americans feel they have a basic right to walk the streets without being questioned by the police.

SECRETARY of Transportation William Coleman told the American Automobile Association recently that Americans may have to get used to the idea that their right to a private car is "no longer absolute." DOT is currently preparing standards for communities to use in traffic management and Coleman says, "Depending on the community, the plan may contain a variety of actions: the use of reserved transit lanes, improved transit scheduling and dispatching, traffic signal pre-emption to speed transit vehicles and other bus preference techniques. It may also include some constraints on automobile traffic, such as parking restriction, differential highway tolls to promote off-peak travel, staggered work hours and incentives to shift people from private cars to car pools and transit."

THE Toronto Transit Commission has ordered 200 streetcars for use in its transit system. . . While public transit ridership continues to fall nationally, ridership in the Pittsburgh area climbed to its highest July level this year in eleven years. The ridership on the Pittsburgh system has increased 18% in the last two years.

One way for NYC

IN the last issue we referred to a position paper prepared for the 1969 Norman Mailer-Jimmy Breslin campaign on the subject of financing New York City. Mailer and Breslin proposed that New York City become a city-state. Part of the fiscal argument was made in a position paper written by Whit Smith and Peter Manso. Now, six years later, as New York City slides gracelessly into fiscal disaster, the paper gains new relevance. We quote excerpts:

For the privilege of electing one governor, two senators, ninety-four legislators, and an assortment of other state officials, New York City residents contribute approximately \$2.5 billion to the state of New York.

In return, for the year 1969-70 New York City will receive approximately \$1,385,000,000 in state aid for numerous programs, including health, education and welfare. The state also contributes \$197,000,000 of per capita aid to be distributed at the city's discretion. These amounts represent roughly 60 per cent of the total funds it is estimated that the city provides to the state in taxes and fees. The city, of course, receives additional benefits in the form of state-conceived and -administered services provided in and for the city. However, the city's \$.60 return on every dollar paid to Albany including roughly \$.07 in the form of per capita assistance, compares unfavorably with the \$.69 return to the rest of the state. . .

The creation of the city-state would have two immediate effects in terms of the city's fiscal relations with Albany. First, approximately \$2.5 billion which the city now contributes to Albany would be retained by the city-state, assuming that all existing taxes and rates of taxation were maintained under the new legal entity. The continuation of present state income tax rates by the city-state would produce over \$600 million in annual revenue; the estate tax, \$59 million; alcoholic licenses, \$17 million; cigarette tax, \$107 million; sales tax, \$254 million; motor-fuel tax, \$81 million; motor-vehicle fees and licenses \$54 million; and pari-mutual taxes at Aqueduct, over \$80 million in additional revenue. After subtracting the amount of state aid which is directly contributed to the city, the net saving to the city-state would be roughly \$1 billion.

Second, the city-state would achieve full fiscal independence, with the power to control tax levies and their distribution. . .

In fiscal 1968, New York State contributed over \$30 billion in taxes to Washington while the city provided approximately \$20 billion, two thirds of the overall state contribution. From an economic viewpoint, during this same period the federal government expended \$19.4 billion in New York State and \$7.1 billion of that total in the city. These figures represent total federal disbursements and include such items as veterans' payments, government contracts, expenditures for operating federal offices, etc.; they are primarily characterized by programs or appropriations over which state and local governments have no control.

On a per-capita basis, the average New York State taxpayer receives \$1156 in federal funds. The per capita average for New York City residents is \$917, while the level for state taxpayers living outside the city is 48.6 per cent higher, a total figure of \$1363.

A number of related causes have produced this gross inequity in the distribution of federal funds. First, state officials and upstate bureaucrats lack a direct incentive for getting federal funds for the city. Second, New York City's congressional delegation has exhibited a tendency toward involvement in intellectual pursuits concerning national and international politics, while other regional coalitions have devoted themselves to committee work related to gaining additional funds for their areas. Third, most urban-aid legislation stipulates that only 12.5 per cent of the total appropriation may go to a single state, producing a situation in which New York cities may share the same amount of money as urban areas in North Dakota. With the power of statehood, the city of New York would be in a position to substantially eliminate this imbalance. Represented by two senators and twenty congressmen, the city-state would bring its full economic leverage directly to bear on Washington to receive its fair share of federal aide. Its representatives would be unified by the city-state's common interest in more urban-oriented federal programs and would directly negotiate with Washington bureaucrats on the basis of need and self-interest.

It is possible on this basis to provide gross estimations of the increased assistance available to New York City once statehood was achieved. If the city-state received the same rate of per capita assistance as is now provided for New York State, the total amount of federal disbursements would increase by \$1.9 billion. If the rate of aid to the city was the same as that now received by state residents living outside New York City, then federal appropriations would increase by \$3.5 billion.

With the addition of \$300 million which now goes to Albany, the total increase in city-state revenue would range between \$2.2 billion and \$3.8 billion. . .

Beyond the specific and calculable financial advantages of statehood, a number of hidden economic effects would result from the creation of the city-state. Administrative efficiency would represent one major improvement. The present duplication of functions as the result of bureaucratic levels in Albany and New York City could be eliminated and replaced by a single administrative structure. For those neighborhoods which did not seek to incorporate, the city-state would provide and administer services, aided by local representatives who checked the equity and efficiency of financial allotments. For incorporated communities, the city-state would simply pass along funds and allow neighborhoods to administer their own programs. The end result would be substantial savings through efficient and responsive administrative practices.

Statehood offers other intangible economic rewards. The people of New York City would no doubt experience a new confidence and pride in themselves and their institutions with the city claiming its proper fiscal prerogatives. No longer would there be the feeling that one's tax dollars were supporting spurious projects mainly benefiting the upstaters. The progress of neighborhood projects funded by the city-state would be tangible evidence to New Yorkers that their taxes were being used for their own benefit, without the depressing waste that now characterizes so many municipal undertakings. Having the power to spend what it had earned, the city might just sense the full possibilities of its imagination; it might, indeed, come to see its own potential and progress.

Hey Hey Heyoo



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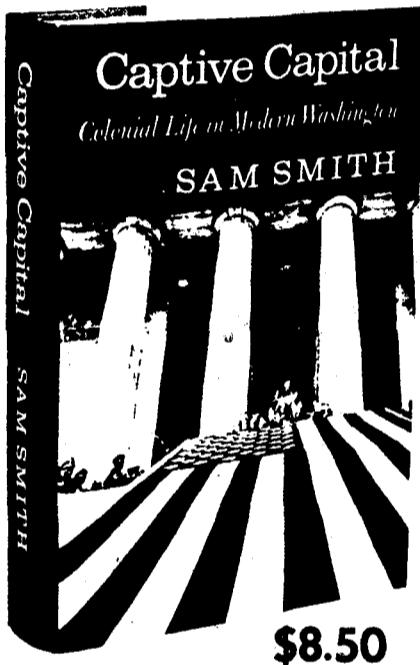
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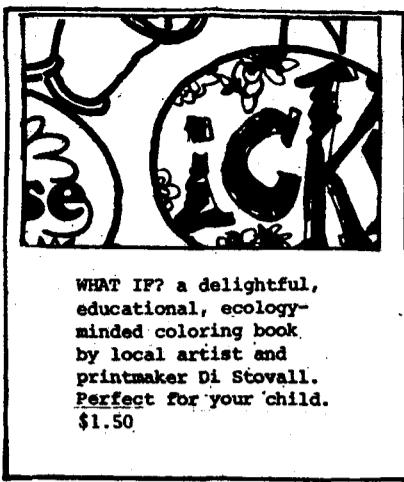
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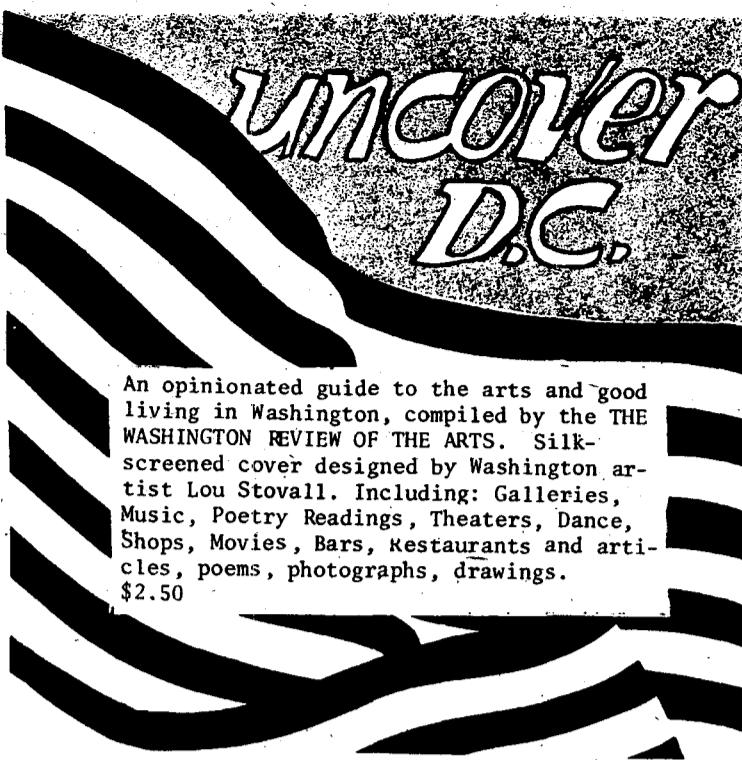
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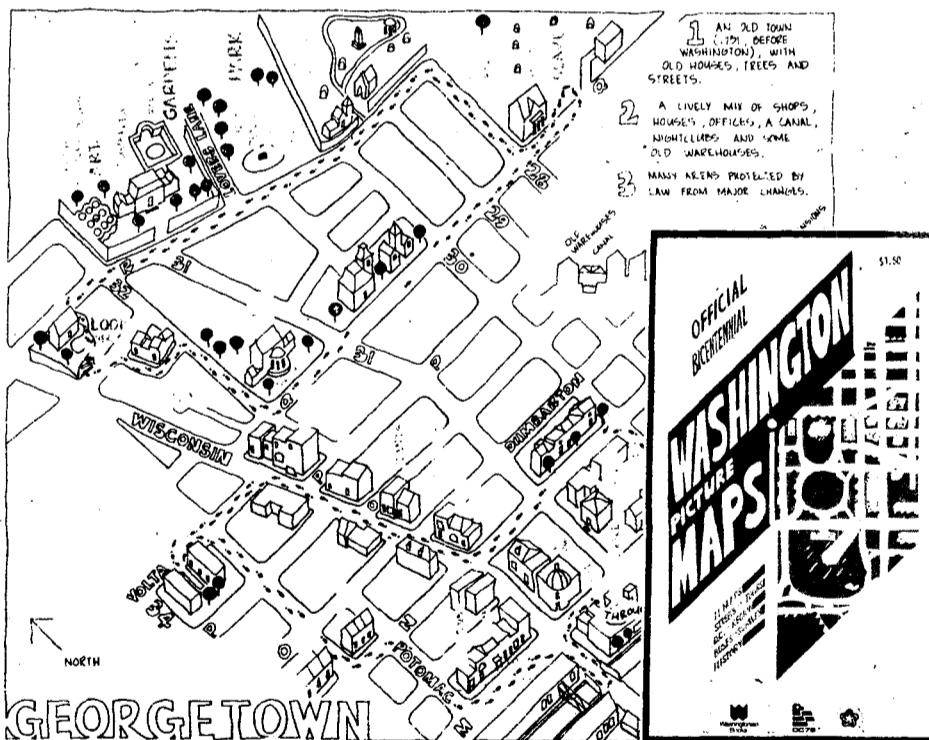
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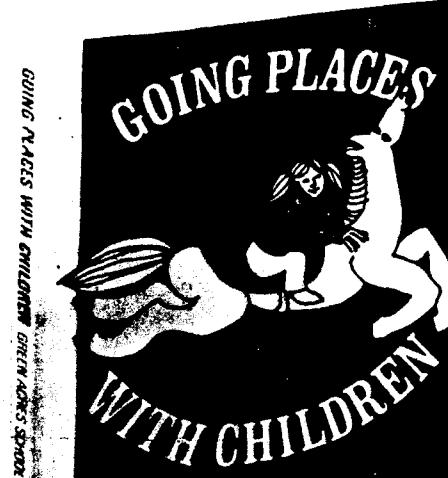
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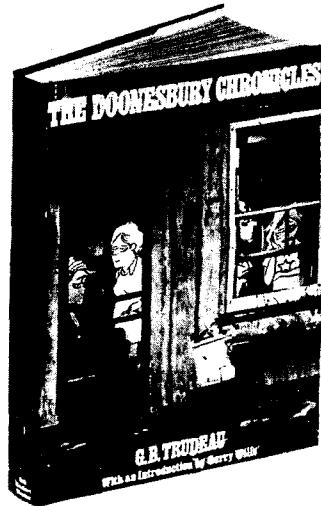


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MATERIALS ON PORTUGAL: The Peoples Translation Service, 1735 Alston Way, Berkeley, Calif. 94703, has published a 40-page booklet of previously unavailable political documents released in Portugal from June through September of this year. Copies are \$1.25.

RADICAL TOYS: Radical toymaker Ben Katz, 51 West 8th Street, NYC, NY 10011 is trying to put together a peoples toy project collective and needs help: writers to publicize the idea, a lawyer, and engineers to help design and produce the toys.

VOICES OF THE THIRD WORLD: Speakers bureau now in its second year of services to college, community organizations and universities. Features cultural performers, films and speakers. For a detailed catalogue write 853 Broadway, Room 1422, NYC, NY 10003.

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POWERLINE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UTILITY PROJECT, Environmental Action Foundation, 724 Dupont Circle Building, DC 20036.

THE PUBLIC WORKS: QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER of the Community Ownership Organizing Project, 349 62nd Street, Oakland, 94618. Available without charge to individuals and community groups. COOP is working for fundamental changes in the distribution of wealth and power in the US.

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TOPICS is a monthly newsletter for activists published by the DC Gazette monthly except during the summer. Subscriptions are \$3 a year. Send orders to the DC Gazette, 109 8th St. NE, DC 20002.

Information in **TOPICS** comes from our sources, as well as from Zodiac News Service, Alternative Press Syndicate, Liberation News Service, College Press Service and Community Press Features.

EDITOR: Sam Smith

NATIONAL GUIDE UPDATE

THIS is our first update to the 1975-1976 National Action Guide. To update your guide, cross out the organizations listed under "Deletions" and clip out and insert this page in your guide.

DELETIONS

PAGE 13: War Tax Resistance
PAGE 14: National Council to Control Handguns
PAGE 24: Outside the Net
PAGE 25: Alternative Press Center, Lesbian Information Center
PAGE 30: The Daily Blotter, The New Almanac

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One Court, Boston Mass. 02108
(617) 523-8010

CORPORATE ACTION

CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY RESEARCH GROUP
1832 M NW DC 20036
(202) 833-3931

ECONOMIC CHANGE

NATIONAL QUALITY OF WORK CENTER
3049 Normanstone Terr., NW DC 20008
(202) 338-2933

NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON HOUSEHOLD EMPLOYMENT
8120 Fenton, Silver Spring, Md. 20910
(301) 587-3335

NATIONAL WELFARE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION
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PUBLIC INTEREST ECONOMICS CENTER
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(202) 872-0313

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11 Garden, Cambridge, Mass 02138

AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION
One Dupont Circle, NW DC 20036
(202) 833-4736

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
1201 16th NW DC 20036
(202) 833-5411

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION
1120 Conn. Ave., NW DC 20036
(202) 833-1240

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
2401 Virginia Ave., NW DC 20037
(202) 785-7759

ENVIRONMENT

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ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND
162 Old Town Rd, East Setauket, NY 11733
(516) 751-5191

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY CENTER
324 C SE DC 20003 (202) 547-6500

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROJECT
1717 Mass. Ave., NW DC 20036
(202) 462-5700

NATIONAL CLEAN AIR COALITION
620 C SE DC 20003 (202) 543-0305

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
1511 K NW DC 20005 (202) 833-3892

NATIONAL INTERVENORS, INC.
153 E SE DC 20003 (202) 543-1642

THE POPULATION INSTITUTE
110 Maryland Ave., NE DC 20002
(202) 544-2202

POPULATION CRISIS COMMITTEE
1835 K NW #200 DC 20006
(202) 659-1833

TASK FORCE AGAINST NUCLEAR POLLUTION
153 E SE DC 20003 (202) 543-7232

URBAN ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE
1714 Mass. Ave., NW DC 20036
(202) 462-0660

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PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION OF AMERICA, INC.
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(202) 254-3487

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COMMUNITY NUTRITION INSTITUTE
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NATIONAL FARMERS UNION
1012 14th NW DC 20005 (202) 628-9774

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COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE
821 15th NW Suite 432 DC 20005
(202) 737-1177

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTERS
1625 Eye NW Suite 403 DC 20006
(202) 833-9280

NATIONAL REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION
1522 K NW Suite 1120 DC 20005
(202) 659-2430

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CENTER FOR GROWTH ALTERNATIVES
1785 Mass. Ave., NW DC 20036
(202) 387-6700

NATIONAL NEIGHBORS
17 Maplewood Mall, Phila., Pa 19144
(215) 848-9094, 849-2847

INTERNATIONAL

WAR TAX RESISTANCE - NATIONAL OFFICE
629 South Hill, Rm. 915, Los Angeles CA
90014 (213) 626-5463

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF POWER AND PEACE
110 Maryland Ave., NE DC 20002
(202) 543-2260

STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
11 Dupont Circle NW #900 DC 20036
(202) 797-6455

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE USA
411 East Capitol DC 20003
(202) 547-6645

LABOR

AFL-CIO
815 16th NW DC 20006 (202) 637-5000

COALITION OF BLACK TRADE UNIONISTS
P.O. Box 13055 DC 20009 (202) 452-4837

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS
AND AEROSPACE WORKERS
1300 Conn. Ave., NW DC 20036
(202) 785-2525

LATINO

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF HISPANIC AMERICAN
CITIZENS (EL CONGRESO)
400 1st NW DC 20001 (202) 638-4483

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JUSTICE UNDER LAW
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(202) 265-3800

NATIONAL COUNCIL TO CONTROL HANDGUNS
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NATIONAL LEGAL AID AND DEFENDER ASSOC.
2100 M NW DC 20009 (202) 452-0620

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NATIONAL INTERRELIGIOUS SERVICE BOARD
FOR CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS
Rm 550, Washington Bldg.
15th & NY Ave., NW DC 20005
(202) 393-4860

ARMS CONTROL ASSOCIATION
11 Dupont Circle NW DC 20036
(202) 797-6450

CENTER FOR DEFENSE INFORMATION
122 Maryland Ave. NE DC 20002
(202) 543-0400

COALITION ON NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND
MILITARY POLICY
110 Maryland Ave., NE DC 20002
(202) 546-7000

POLITICS

WORKING COMMITTEE FOR AN ANARCHIST
FEDERATION AND CONTINENTAL ANARCHIST
CONGRESS
c/o Hunter Libertarian Alliance
Box 1471, 695 Park Ave., NY, NY 10021

CONFERENCE/ALTERNATIVE STATE AND LOCAL
PUBLIC POLICIES
Institute for Policy Studies
1909 Q NW DC 20009 (202) 234-9382

ALLIANCE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD GOVERNMENT
1772 Church NW DC 20009 (202) 797-9034

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
1730 M NW DC 20036 (202) 296-1770

CONGRESS WATCH
133 C SE DC 20003 (202) 546-4996

COMMON CAUSE
2030 M NW DC 20036 (202) 833-1200

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CONGRESS
201 Mass. Ave., NE DC 20002
(202) 547-1151

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE, INC.
425 13th NW # 515 DC 20004
(202) 393-4332

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(202) 223-2396

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02121

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AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
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FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SCIENTISTS
307 Mass. Ave., NE DC 20002
(202) 546-3300

UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS FUND, INC.
1208 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02138
(617) 547-5552

RELIGIOUS

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
1522 K NW Suite 1002 DC 20005
(202) 872-1157

ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF B'NAI B'RITH
1640 Rhode Island Ave., NW DC 20036
(202) 393-5288

CENTER FOR SOCIAL ACTION - UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
110 Maryland Ave., NE DC 20002
(202) 543-1517

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
1346 Conn. Ave., NW DC 20036
(202) 296-2588

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NATIONAL SENIOR CITIZENS LAW CENTER
910 17th NW DC 20006 (202) 872-1404

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE AGING
1828 L NW DC 20036 (202) 223-6250

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS
1511 K NW DC 20005 (202) 783-6850

TAXES

NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE ON REVENUE
SHARING
1785 Mass. Ave., NW DC 20036
(202) 265-4001

NATIONAL TAXPAYERS UNION
325 Penna. Ave., SE DC 20003
(202) 546-2040, 2085

TAX ANALYSTS AND ADVOCATES
732 17th NW DC 20006 (202) 298-5556

WOMEN

CENTER FOR WOMEN POLICY STUDIES
2000 P NW Suite 508 DC 20036
(202) 872-1770

WOMEN'S LOBBY, INC.
1245 G SE DC 20003 (202) 547-0082

YOUTH

COUNCIL ON CHILDREN, MEDIA AND
MERCHANDISING
1346 Conn. Ave., NW #523 DC 20036
(202) 466-2583

NATIONAL STUDENT LOBBY
2000 P NW DC 20036 (202) 833-3116

U.S. NATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION
2115 S NW DC 20008 (202) 265-9890

U.S. YOUTH COUNCIL
1221 Conn. Ave., NW DC 20036
(202) 347-2775

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INTELLIGENCE DOCUMENTATION CENTER
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(202) 333-9200

CENTER FOR NATIONAL POLICY REVIEW
Catholic University Law School
DC 20064 (202) 832-8525

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE PUBLIC
ASSESSMENT OF TECHNOLOGY
1714 Mass. Ave., NW DC 20036
(202) 872-0317

PRESS - ENVIRONMENT

PEOPLE & ENERGY
1779 Church NW DC 20036 (202) 332-6000

THE ELEMENTS
1901 Q NW DC 20009 (202) 234-6485

PRESS - FOOD

FOOD ADVOCATE
2288 Fulton, Suite 200, Berkeley CA
94704

NUTRITION ACTION
1779 Church NW DC 20036

PRESS - GUIDES

ALTERNATIVE PRESS CENTER
P.O. Box 7209, Baltimore MD 21218
(301) 367-9418

DC EYE

GILBERT HAIN HAS DONE IT again. On behalf of Neighbors Inc., he has won a law suit that produced a court order not only to have the city pay for repairs of water mains under streets and sidewalks but pay back those residents socked with outrageous repair bills all the way back to 1971. That is \$743,000 worth of repairs that got billed to the wrong person, such as the functionally blind woman with a monthly income of \$100 who was told to cough up \$2000 for water main repairs or get out of her house.

There will be a victory party sponsored by Neighbors on December 13 from 8 pm to 1 am at Tifereth Israel Temple, 7701 16th NW. Donations at the door. Info: 726-3454.

SUPPORTERS OF STATEHOOD won a surprise victory in Congress when the House voted to override the House District Committee and not abolish the federal enclave. The mayor and other supporters of half-rule were incensed by the action, seeing the enclave as an infringement on their prerogatives. But the enclave is important for at least two reasons:

- By establishing an enclave, Congress has taken the first step towards redefining the District of Columbia, which is necessary prior to the creation of a new state unless you want to amend the Constitution. It has also admitted that it is possible to separate the federal and the local interest, something that statehood advocates have always maintained. While its motives in creating the enclave were different from those of the statehood supporters and while the enclave is larger than it should be, the effect is to create an area that meets the constitutional requirement for a federal district. Now all we have to do is get full self-government for the rest of the city.

- By giving the feds a plot of land to call their own, the long-term effect will probably be to lessen congressional and White House paranoia about the city. They may decide someday that a little Vatican is all they need (they could even provide Swiss guard uniforms for the Capitol police) to feel safe and secure from the people of DC.

VINCENT REED is moving fast to put his mark on the DC school system. He has established eight committees that have already had their first deadline for reports on such matters as changing K-12 organization, teacher certification, decentralization, in-service programs and teacher evaluation, promotion policies, school boundaries, educational facilities planning, educational planning and curriculum. He seems to be fulfilling our long-held belief that there has been nothing wrong with our school superintendents that replacing them with acting superintendents wouldn't cure.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER HILDA MASON got accidentally locked up in a school room for a half hour the other day and only got out by screaming and banging on the door. Gives her one more reason to push ahead with her ideas on decentralizing maintenance contracting authority.

CITIZEN GROUPS TESTIFYING at a recent hearing on Advisory Neighborhood Councils strongly urged that the councils be given greater powers. Said Jim Viterello of D.C. PIRG, "The major failing of government has been that decisions affecting thousands of people are made from the top down. The bill [Sterling Tucker's proposed ANC powers bill discussed in last month's Gazette] would force ANC's to spend time on garbage pick-up and alley closings instead of area issues such as a city wide housing program." Viterello added "The law would snuff out most, if not all, of the initiative at the neighborhood level. It would be truly tragic" if the city council adopted the same attitude towards ANC's as Congress toward the city. A number of citizen witnesses argued that the ANC's should be able to file suit against the government, which the Tucker bill prohibits, especially since they foresaw the possibility that the neighborhood councils might have to force the city to live up to the requirements of the ANC law itself. Other witnesses were upset because the Tucker

bill prohibits ANC's from incorporating and conducting programs. There were also objections to the prohibition against ANC's affiliating on a city-wide basis and from seeking funds from the federal or DC government without city council approval. Some witnesses took a position between that of the Citizen's Neighborhood Council Coordinating Committee, which favors strong powers for the ANC's, and Tucker who appears to want the weakest system of ANC's that is politically possible. Diane Josephson of the DC Women's Political Caucus agreed with Tucker that the ANC's should not have the power to conduct programs. Tucker had told the hearing earlier "if ANC's get involved in operations they won't have time for advising." Al Gollin, Ward Three ANC Taskforce Chairperson, thought the Tucker bill's requirements were "too specific and too restrictive." He thought that ANC's should have the power to set up experimental programs.

The Citizens Neighborhood Council Coordinating Committee has proposed what it calls a "people's bill" on the powers of the ANC's but as this is written no city council member has introduced the bill.



SEEN ON WISCONSIN AVENUE: a youth skate boarding at high speed down the sidewalk with one foot in the air, his arms clutching a brand new aquarium that he had just bought.

THERE ARE FEW THINGS as shameful in this city as conditions at the DC Jail. With virtually no help from the Mayor and his staff and an appalling lack of interest on the part of the City Council, US District Judge William B. Bryant has been attempting to do what he can to change those conditions. In his latest ruling last month Judge Bryant declared that the conditions represent cruel and unusual punishment for the inmates and are therefore unconstitutional. Most of those who know anything about DC Jail would agree but the Mayor has been stonewalling the Judge and seems to have very little inclination to take the matter with the seriousness that it deserves. Bryant ordered the city to appoint a "compliance officer" to carry out his orders to improve conditions. These improvements include reducing the jail population, having the jail inspected by housing, fire and environmental services officials with a report going to the court on all code violations, a report within 30 days from the DC Corrections Department on how the violations will be corrected, weekly provision of clean clothing, bed linen and towels for inmates, differentiation in the treatment of maximum security and other prisoners, prompt examination of inmates showing mental problems and transfers from the jail for those found to be mentally ill, doctor's approval of any physical restraints used on inmates and regular medical examinations for jail food handlers. The Mayor has chosen Julian Dugas to be the compliance officer and while this appears to be one more discouraging development in this dismal situation at least now Dugas will have to answer to someone other than Walter Washington. In the meantime, citizens should ask the City Council what it intends to do to change conditions at the jail.

METRO officials aren't going to replace the flammable materials in existing buses and the first batch of subway cars, despite reports from the National Bureau of Standards and others that they are fire hazards. Perhaps Metro thinks it will be cheaper to conduct regular fire drills on buses.

WE DON'T OFTEN JUMP TO Walter Washington's defense but in the case of the siren we'll make an exception. WW got a lashing from David Brinkley for using his siren to get out of a RFK traffic jam.

In the first place, whatever else you can say about Big Wally, he has

not abused the prerogatives of his office. He lives the blandest daily existence of any big city mayor we know about and presides over a city hall that is strikingly informal and modest compared with the sort of places that David Brinkley and his ilk hang out - like Congress and the White House. While there are signs of delusions of grandeur afflicting one of the city council chairmen in the band (he wants a limousine), on the whole they live the simple life down at 14th & E.

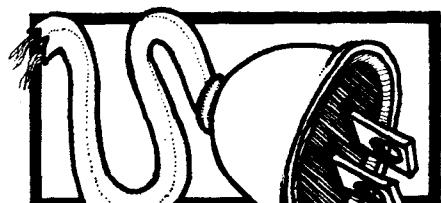
Secondly, it is strange to hear a national correspondents complaining about such matters. The White House press regularly partakes of the privileges of the incumbent, including holding up the local citizenry as they move under escort to wherever it is he is going. We don't know where hizoner was going on the day in question but it was probably just as important as wherever Gerald Ford was going that day in Hartford.

And besides, if they aren't going to let him be a real mayor, he should at least be allowed to toot his siren once in awhile.

NADINE WINTER is continuing her campaign to end the geographical imbalance in appointments to DC boards and commissions. A report from the Councilmember's office shows that of those nominations so far this year requiring the advice and consent of the council, two out of the three nominees to the Election Board live in Ward Three, six out of the 15 members of the Board of Equalization and Review live in Ward Three, two out of the five members of the Zoning Commission live in Ward Three and four out of the seven members of the Judicial Nominating Commission live in Ward Three.

THE FLXIBLE COMPANY submitted the low bid on 122 new Metro buses. This means a new look in buses, perhaps for the better. AM General, which built the last batch, produced some nifty looking boxes on wheels that featured uncleanable fabric seats and floors with a tendency to ignite with dangerous speed. The new buses will have neoprene seat cushions covered by vinyl and will use dark blue rubber flooring. The cost of a new bus has risen dramatically. The low bid was \$65,000 per bus. AM General built its for under \$50,000.

ONE OF THE MOST complete stories on the Washington Post strike, from the perspective of all sides, appeared in a recent issue of New Times. In the course of the article Philip Nobile notes that under an incentive compensation plan established in 1974 cash prizes are to be given "primarily to key management and professional employees who have made significant contributions to the profitability of the company." Says Nobile, "Had the plan been in effect in 1973, the winners would have divvied up \$637,450. I think you might buy a couple of press-



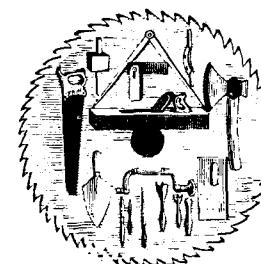
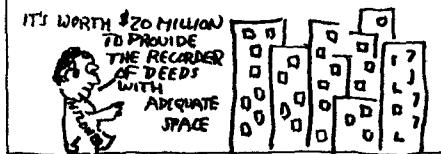
men for that," mused the stockholder. Actually, for the incentive largess of \$637,450, you could subsidize 43 pressmen at scale or 28 pressmen at their average yearly salary. That includes overtime." The story quotes pressmen local President Jim Dugan as saying "They holler that we make \$22,500 a year. To do that we have to work a 6 1/2 day week 52 weeks a year. We work every night and all weekend. This guy over there has worked 24 years and he doesn't get Saturday night off. I'm off Friday night but I have to work Saturday day and Saturday night." Nobile also pointed out that Dugan owns three trotting horses and races them at Bowie.

NADINE WINTER REPORTS that 200 prostitutes are being imported into DC for the Bicentennial year and Assistant Police Chief Theodore Zanders says the number of streetwalkers has increased 400% since January 1974. It just proves that those who complained about the DC Bicentennial Commission not doing anything were all wet.

WE HAVE GRUMBLED from time to time about the city's profligate way with its capital budget and have found ourselves pretty much alone among the media. But things may be changing. The Post, long-time advocate of the "build we must" approach to the city government, admitted last month in a front page story on the city's debt, that DC is one of the national leaders in conspicuous capital consumption. Here are a few statistics from the Post article:

- The city's debt has risen from \$101 million in 1965 to \$1 billion in fiscal 1975.
- Washington is second only to New York City in per capita debt.
- In 1965, the city spent only 2.3% of its operating budget for debt service. This figure has risen to 10.1 per cent.

- A study in 1974 by the Municipal Research Bureau found that DC was third among the city's 32 largest cities in combined state and local per capita debt. The combined per capita figure for New York City was \$1280, for San Francisco \$1086 and for DC \$1,051. The median for all 32 cities was only \$623.



WOOD CHIPS

ANTON WOOD

SCHOOL BOARD

APPARENTLY the Kellogg "Stick Up for Breakfast" program was not enough corporate influence for the DC Board of Education. The Board of Education has awarded a \$372,000 one-year consultant contract to RCA's Educational Service Division for the purpose of designing a career development program for implementation in DC high schools. Provisions will also be made for students of parochial and private schools to participate in the program on a shared-time basis. Some observers have contended that the board's career development department is fully equipped to design such a program and that the RCA consultants are an unnecessary expense.

NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

CHAIRMAN TUCKER'S bill defining the Neighborhood Commissions (formerly Councils) duties and responsibilities raises some interesting questions in regard to the bill's proposed prohibition against the NC's bringing suits against the District or Federal governments. Tucker's bill states that the NC's shall have access to government officials and official documents and public data. The bill also gives the NC's the right to be a standing party in any case before the Board of Zoning Adjustment and the Zoning Commission which effects their particular area. This bill, however, prevents the NC's from appealing any adverse ruling to the courts or exercising any initiative under the Freedom of Information Act, the Sunshine law, or the Administrative Procedures Act.

METRO CONT'D

two phases are merited in themselves. Who would pay the local costs? The jurisdictions that are balking at the \$60 million (and growing) bus deficits, that have taken two years to arrive at a bus deficit allocation formula— are these jurisdictions going to rush with funds for a line that runs in DC and doesn't serve their people?

There is only one conclusion that can be reached and that is that the operation of Phase 1 will be a major financial and operational boondoggle; another monument to irresponsible Metro management.

HAROLD GOLDSTEIN was formerly a planner with the DC Department of Transportation and has been in transportation planning since 1967.

NE Neighborhood Only Fit to Print?

DAVE PARIS

RESIDENTS of Upper NE are fighting construction of an industrial park for the Government Printing Office in their community. Some see it as a Trojan Horse; others argue that the proposed plant will permit the GPO to eliminate up to 1,300 jobs through mechanization and modernization. The proposed \$2-300 million dollar facility is being heavily pushed by the GPO, the General Services Administration, the National Capital Planning Commission and Mayor Washington.

The site is located north of T St. between the railroad tracks and 9th St. NE.

The official rationale for the project includes the argument that modern printing technology works best in one story structures as opposed to the present GPO complex of multi-story turn-of-the-century landmark status buildings. On the other hand, some printing experts contended during a go-round on the issue in the middle 1960's, when Congress rejected efforts to relocate the GPO to a Beltway site, that the space demands of a single-story plant cause greater inefficiency. But, in any case, no study has been done of the alternatives.

There is an environmental impact statement, however, (available from Mr. Loxley of GSA, 343-6801), prepared by Dalton/Dalton/Little/Newport which admits that it will bid on design work for the entire GPO project if approved by Congress. One project justification found in the EIS is that removal of the GPO, a light industrial use, from the Union Station area will improve the environment of the National Visitor's Center. The Visitor's Center is the Bicentennial project which won't be complete by the Bicentennial and has had a several hundred per cent cost overrun. What the consultants suggest is improving the environment of the Union Station/Federal Enclave area at the expense of the community of Upper Northeast, (Brookland, Edgewood, Brentwood and Eckington) but a poor neighbor for a train station is an even poorer neighbor for a residential neighborhood.

In fact, the environment of the Union Station area would worsen if GPO moves because the existing complex would be used either for more offices or for a Convention Center. In 1974 the DC Municipal Planning Office quietly talked about the possibility of a Convention Center at the GPO site after the Eisenhower Center started to run

down the drain. Naturally the EIS fails to assess the impact of development of the GPO site.

The Upper Northeast area has a number of parcels of land which are coveted by bureaucrats and developers. The EIS, despite promises made at public meetings fails to take into account the cumulative impacts of proposed projects or those underway, such as Fort Lincoln, two uptown centers, the Stanley Martin Communities Venture and a proposed DC industrial park. According to Thomas Rooney, planning chairman of the Upper Northeast Coordination Council, "Our group fears that these projects will cover the area before the city completes even the draft on the comprehensive plan presently being prepared for our area. Then the projects and not the paper will determine our land use. No facility of the GPO's magnitude should be planned for an area undergoing a comprehensive planning process."

The GPO with its 6-7,000 workers would be moving from an area with pretty bad traffic conditions to an area with terrible traffic conditions. All the Upper NE intersections around the proposed site are at level "F," meaning the worst possible conditions (with A best and E worst). In contrast, the present GPO site has two "B" intersections, one "C" and one "D." Air pollution analysis indicates violations of federal standards at key intersections around both old and new sites, but the present site has considerably better mass transportation service (bus, subway and commuter rail).

Not only will the new GPO cost hundreds of millions of federal taxpayers' money, but the city will lose tax revenues from light industrial firms presently occupying the site. According to the EIS, 750 employees, six construction oriented businesses as well as a bus maintenance facility, a recycling warehouse and a broadcasting tower would be dislocated by the project. The MPO, whose rezoning plan for the West End will already cost the city several thousand blue collar jobs, is in favor of the proposed GPO move, but logic clearly indicates that the city should hold on to present light industry. It is almost a certainty that the affected businesses will leave the city and that even the adjacent industrial park which the city plans to build will be damaged by loss of these light industrial enterprises.

The GSA has scheduled a December 2 hearing on the environmental impact statement (7:00 pm Noyes Elementary School). Citing the failure of the GSA to include much promised data in the EIS, the UNECC has requested postponement of the hearing in order to permit its planning committee time to develop its own data. The data includes the collective impacts of various land use proposals for the area.

In any event, it is doubtful that the GSA will recommend against their own project following the hearing. Clearly, the power to determine the GPO question belongs to Congress, primarily the Joint Committee on Printing, as well as the House and Senate Public Works Committees, Public Buildings and Grounds Subcommittees.

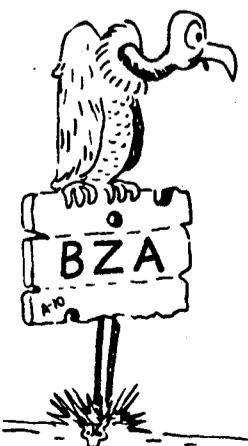
Gazette readers interested in the GPO situation are urged to contact the Upper Northeast Coordinating Council (635-5227) or to drop by its new office at 715 Monroe Street, NE. The organization would especially like to hear from helpful folks with engineering or printing expertise.

(David Paris is an urban environmentalist currently working with the Upper NE Coordinating Council.)

Back at the BZA

MAYOR WALTER WASHINGTON has finally gotten around to dropping Samuel Scrivener as a member of the Board of Zoning Adjustment. Scrivener, whose term expired months ago, was the subject of a major investigative report in the Gazette two years ago that outlined the serious conflicts of interest involved in his membership on the BZA. The Gazette was particularly critical of the fact that Scrivener and fellow-board member William Harps were both on the BZA and top officials of Perpetual, holder of thousands of mortgages in the city. Although Scrivener was not reappointed, Harps was and has been elected chairman of the BZA. The council earlier this year rejected Harps' nomination for the Board of Equalization and Review. Although Scrivener's behavior on the BZA has been the subject of repeated criticism, the mayor has designated him to receive the city's Public Service Award.

Lest fans of the continuing saga of conflicts of interest at city hall feel that there is a new spirit of fairness in the mayor's office, it is important to note that Scrivener's replacement on the BZA is Leonard L. McCants. McCants' qualifications for the post include his appointment as a Capitol cop by Senator Ernest Hollings of South Carolina, a tour at the Urban League, and service as legislative assistant to Rep. Mendel Davis, who represents Charleston. He is also a former president of the Young Democrats of DC. What's that got to do with the BZA? We forgot to mention that from 1972 to last August, when he went into private practice, McCants was an attorney for Linowes and Blocher, the big developers' favorite firm, which, just incidentally, will have one of the city's most controversial zoning cases up before the BZA -- McLean Gardens -- when and if it wins its case before the Zoning Commission. Big Walter's style isn't slipping at all.



KEY CITY COUNCIL VOTES

COUNCIL MEMBER	VOTE 65	VOTE 66	VOTE 67	VOTE 68	CUMULATIVE +	RATING NV	ABSENT %
Marion Barry	+	+	A	+	37 21 2 7	62%	10%
David Clarke	+	+	+	+	43 22 0 3	66%	4%
James Coates	+	+	+	+	39 21 0 8	65%	12%
Arrington Dixon	+	+	+	+	36 24 6 1	55%	1%
Willie Hardy	+	+	+	A	38 28 0 1	58%	1%
Julius Hobson	+	A	+	-	29 12 0 27	71%	40%
Doug Moore	-	+	A	A	38 19 0 11	67%	16%
Jerry Moore	-	+	+	+	24 27 0 17	47%	25%
Polly Shackleton	+	+	+	+	41 24 1 2	62%	3%
William Spaulding	+	+	+	+	32 30 5 0	48%	0%
Sterling Tucker	+	+	+	+	30 38 0 0	44%	0%
John Wilson	+	+	+	+	32 27 0 9	54%	13%
Nadine Winter	+	+	+	+	39 27 1 0	58%	0%
Pros	11	12	11	10			
Cons	2	0	0	1			

OVERALL COUNCIL AVERAGE: 35 (+) votes, 33 (-) votes: 52%

65. Resolution establishing a commission on gambling. The God lobby tabled this earlier but revenue-hungry councilmembers brought it back up and passed it. Said the Rev. Jerry Moore: "I think it's a very wrong direction for the community. I don't think any good can come of it." Said Chairman Tucker: "Rev. Moore is voting in advance on the results of the commission." (+ = support)

66. Legislation requiring health professionals and others to report cases of child abuse. (+ = support)

67. First reading of legislation lowering the age of majority in

DC (including for drinking) to 18. (+ = support)

68. Bill to permit patrons of restaurants and hotels to consume booze standing up and to extend the hours permitted for liquor stores to operate. The bill also permits the ABC Board to issue one-day alcoholic beverage licenses. Julius Hobson cast the lone vote against this on first reading on the grounds that it was hypocritical to increase the availability of one kind of drug, alcohol, while refusing to lower penalties for another, pot. We agree that it is hypocritical but the solution is to pass a pot bill. (+ = support).

marily an experiment in home rule. It was seized upon by local leaders as an opportunity to modernize the city and retain its status as the federal capital. The author traces the ways in which the various municipal reforms became entangled in national struggles of the reconstruction period and hopelessly compromised by questionable financial practices. The leading figure of this time, if not the principle political figure in the history of Washington, was Alexander R. Shepherd. Maury re-examines the record of this man who was first vice president of the Board of Public Works, the governor and always "boss" of the territorial government. Copies are \$3.00 each and will be available from the DC Gazette, 109 8th St., NE, DC 20002.

THE CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS affecting DC government employees on December 5th at 10:00 am in Room 503 of the District Building and at 2:00 pm on the same day in room 500. Testimony will be limited to the following topics: Review of the current status of the city's relationship with the federal city service retirement system; review of the current status of the city's retirement systems which are funded by the city government e.g. fire and police, teachers, judges; consideration of comparative retirement systems in cities and states of comparative size; consideration of merger of the DC managed funds into a single entity under a board of trustees; and consideration of proposals to ensure the fiscal integrity and stability of the funds. Persons wishing to testify should contact Bruce French, 638-2223, by Dec 1. It is requested that those persons testifying submit their prepared statement to Room 225 of the District Building before the close of business on Dec 1 so it can be distributed to members of the committee.

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION meets Dec 4 at 9:30 am, 1325 G St., NW, conference room, 10th floor. Info 382-1161.

THE RENTAL ACCOMMODATIONS COMMISSION holds public meetings on appeals and reviews on Mondays, 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm and Wednesdays 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm.

ON December 28, revised minimum wage rates become effective for approximately 56,000 persons employed in DC in building service and other occupations. The new rates are: \$2.70 an hour for the Building Service Occupation and \$2.75 an hour for construction occupations; various mechanical occupations; bus drivers and truck drivers; telephone repairmen; meter readers; moving men; trash removers; car washers; parking lot attendants; lifeguards; ushers; guards and watchmen; embalmers; and employees of temporary help companies and amusement and recreation companies other than clerical, semi-technical, and building service employees.

Summaries of the two wage orders will be mailed to employers affected by them. Questions should be directed to the Board, 614 H St., NW, Room 615, 629-3565.

A PROPOSED wage order for approximately 9,000 persons employed in private households will be held by the Minimum Wage and Industrial Safety Board on Wednesday, December 3, 1975, at 10:00 am in Room A-5 (auditorium) of the Martin Luther King Memorial Library, 901 G, NW.

A minimum wage of \$2.50 an hour and overtime compensation at one and one-half times the employee's regular rate is provided in the proposed wage order. Also included in the order are provisions regarding handicapped workers, employees under the age of 18, uniforms, travel expenses, deductions, allowances, unconditional payment of wages, basis of payment, record keeping, posting, collection of unpaid wages and wage statements.

Copies of the proposed wage order may be secured from the Minimum Wage and Industrial Safety Board.

THIS winter several courses of interest to current or prospective home owners will be offered by the Graduate School, USIA.

"House Renovation" (\$54) will cover traditional architectural types, the problems faced when renovating and their solutions, the liberties one can take when redesigning, and the special financing involved in renovation projects.

"Landscape Architecture" (\$36) will cover the materials and techniques used when constructing retaining walls, pools, fountains, walks, fences, small shelters, and structures. The principles of grading, drainage, irrigation, and lighting will also be discussed.

"Antique Furniture" (\$22) will also be offered for those who are planning to refurbish their homes with various antique pieces. Topics of discussion will be identification of styles and periods, design characteristics, identification of fakes, antiques as an investment, and the restoration and refinishing of antiques.

Classes meet one night per week for ten weeks beginning January 10. Info: 447-4419.

THE WASHINGTON FREE CLINIC needs financial assistance. For the past seven years it has provided assistance to an average of 10,000 people annually. In addition to providing basic physical and mental health care, the clinic offers women's self-help instruction, VD rap groups and special clinics for women and gay men. Now its long tradition of service to the community is threatened by rising costs. The national malpractice insurance crisis has pushed the clinic's insurance costs from \$500 to \$3150 in one year, despite the fact that no one has filed a malpractice suit against the clinic. The cost of drugs have also risen, forcing the clinic to close its dispensary and new federal legislation have made it necessary for the clinic to renovate its lab. The clinic is a DC institution that really deserves help. Send a contribution to the Washington Free Clinic, 1556 Wisconsin Avenue NW, DC 20007.

A BILINGUAL DIRECTORY OF 110 agencies in DC that provide services to the latino community is available from the Washington Urban League. Called "Al Grano" the directory is available by writing Frank Fuentes, Director of Latino Affairs, Washington Urban League, 1424 16th St. NW, DC 20036.

A YEAR AGO the ACLU won a federal court order expunging the arrest records of all 15,000 persons arrested during the May-day police riot of 1971. This victory promises to wipe the slate clean of one of the most massive violations of civil liberties in the country's history. But before destroying the records, the ACLU must compile a list of names and addresses to notify these persons that their records have been retrieved from the government and that they are entitled to refund of collateral. This job requires an enormous amount of work and while the job is about half done, many more volunteers are needed to complete the task. If you can assist, call Kathy Meyer, 638-6263, 9am-3pm weekdays and let her know when you can come in.

A BROCHURE ON THE C&O Canal is now available from the local council of American Youth Hostels. Featuring a wide list of books and maps covering traveling on the canal, the brochure is itself a map and information on the canal.

To obtain a copy write the Potomac Area Council, American Youth Hostels, 1520 16th St., DC 20036 or calling 462-5780.



Mon. - Fri. 5p.m. - midnite

